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### THE AMERICAN.

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#### CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE.

	PAGE
Notes of the Week . . . . .	369
What's the Cause of This? . . . . .	371
False Measures . . . . .	372
Cause of Falling Prices . . . . .	373
Fallacy that Minimum Cost Measures Value . . . . .	373
Poetry—The Song of June . . . . .	374
Woman's Ways . . . . .	374
A Chapter About Children . . . . .	375
Notes About Newspapers . . . . .	375
Bric-a-Brac . . . . .	375
Philadelphia's Sentiment . . . . .	376
Our London Letter . . . . .	377
Men You Hear About . . . . .	378
Our Letter from Paris . . . . .	378
Poetry—A Never-mind Fellow . . . . .	379
Among the Preachers . . . . .	379
Art and Science . . . . .	380
Open Doors to Correspondents—	
Cost of Producing Silver . . . . .	380
Foreign Facts and Fancies . . . . .	381
Scientific Scraps . . . . .	381
As Others See Us . . . . .	382
Chips for Capitalists . . . . .	383
Nuggets and Nubbins . . . . .	383

#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE place made vacant by the death of Mr. Gresham has been filled by the transfer of Attorney-General Olney to the Department of State, while Mr. Judson H. Harmon, of Cincinnati, takes Mr. Olney's post. The change cannot be regarded as strengthening the Cabinet in any way. The newspapers, indeed, talk of Mr. Olney's pronounced Americanism, and then in the next sentence speak of his sympathy with the foreign policy of this administration, as though the two things were in some way identical, not to say compatible. In fact, the State Department for the first time is put in charge of one of Mr. Cleveland's

personal following, who, unlike Mr. Bayard and Mr. Gresham, has no standing in the country apart from his connection with Mr. Cleveland. He is a Massachusetts man whom the President drew out of his political obscurity, and while he might have made a good Attorney-General, we have no reason to expect of him that he will exhibit the strength and independence of judgment which have characterized our great Secretaries of State. It is also said of him that he is above all things a lawyer, and familiar with the history and scope of the Monroe doctrine. It is, however, just a lawyer that is least fitted for a diplomat, because the habits of his profession incline him to take up all disputes as matters to be settled by statute or precedent, and the really important questions of diplomacy are covered by neither. As for the Monroe doctrine, that is simply a snare to the feet of a lawyer playing at diplomacy, as Mr. Gresham unhappily showed in handling the Nicaragua question. He set out from the notion that that doctrine defined our duties toward our neighbors, and limited our rights to interfere in their behalf. In fact, diplomacy begins just where such declarations end. It is a matter of fine appreciation of fresh situations; of the ultimate bad consequences; of acts which seem harmless, and of the tempers and dispositions of peoples and their rulers. Far better than a lawyer in the State Department would be a successful and experienced book agent until we make up our minds to have professional diplomats.

Mr. Harmon brings to one of the less important posts in the Cabinet a good record as a lawyer, but is still more commended to the President by his views on the money question. Like Mr. Gresham, he is an ex-Republican, and left the party in 1872. As he is a free-trader he did well to stay out of it.

THE war upon silver goes forward with great zest, with the possible result of rending the Democratic party into a small section on the side of the President. Mr. Cleveland, in fact, is pursuing substantially the same course taken by Mr. Buchanan with regard to the Kansas question, though with the difference that Mr. Buchanan had the whole South on his side, while the Democrats of no section of the country are in harmony with the present occupant of the White House. Those who care for the future of that party may recall the twenty-four years of exile from the national government, to which Mr. Buchanan's policy led, by the division over a theory as to the relation of the nation to its Territories. It is admitted that in the States, where the administration is spending its strength against silver, the majority of the party of the people are arrayed against it. The two elements of power which the opponents of silver are able to use are political pressure upon and through officeholders, and putting obstacles in the way of any expression of the popular feeling. It is not possible to count such speeches as those of Mr. Carlisle as amounting to anything in the way of force, and the same may be said with truth of the diatribes against silver which New York is sending into the South. We read alternately in the gold-standard organs that the tide is turned in the South, and that its friends are working hard to prevent the holding of State conventions to pass upon the question.

THE Illinois Convention, which the gold-standard papers describe as held under Governor Altgeld's auspices, was nearly "as unanimous as Jonah in the whale" on the subject. Nor is the comparison with Jonah an unfitting one. The prophet was hardly in more cramped or disagreeable quarters than are our American producers generally. There is something miraculous in their continued existence under such conditions; and their earnest desire is to find themselves liberated and placed in normal human circumstances. But the gold whale holds them fast and will not let them go until an emetic of some kind has been administered.

A majority of the Democratic National Committee are opposed to allowing the party to express itself on the question. Whether through actual conviction, or from a desire to propitiate the great bestower of patronage, they are complaisant to an extent which irritates the distinctly Democratic States. It is announced that the minority will take steps to call a national convention of the party in spite of them. This decision, if it be authentic, shows how intense the feeling is which has been awakened by the aggressive policy of the administration. They feel that the time has come for the party to repudiate its President.

THE London *Spectator* has been watching the contest in America, and says that our "'sound money' men advocate the English system—gold as the only legal tender for large amounts; paper to be convertible on demand into gold, and silver to be legal tender up to about £2, or ten dollars. This is important testimony as to the real drift of the anti-silver agitation in America. It tells right out what Mr. Cleveland and his friends are very chary of saying, viz.: that they have taken Great Britain as their model and standard, and mean to make this a single gold-standard country, with silver for small change. They are neither international nor independent bimetallicists in any sense, and those who hold to either kind of bimetallicism have no business in their camp.

Our London contemporary adds the conjecture "that as bodies the wage-earners are in favor of gold—that is, of cheapness—and the freeholders of silver, which they think will bring back high prices." If the wage-earners of America have any predilections for the gold standard, they certainly have concealed them with great success. Those to whom they are accustomed to look for light and leading have declared themselves supporters of silver wherever they have expressed an opinion. In fact, the consequences of the election of 1892 have cured our working classes of any hankering they ever had for abnormal cheapness, whether through free trade or the gold standard. They have come to learn that the producers of the country have the same interest, and that no class can prosper by the depression of another. The *Spectator* is right in fancying that our farmers are for silver; but they have no monopoly of that feeling.

JUNE is the month of commencements, when a young generation steps out of the scholastic arena into the larger to take possession and give shape to the world. It is a flood of fresh life poured every year upon us, full of new hopes and plans, most of which will come to nothing, while a few will bear lasting fruit. It is easy to laugh at the college graduate, of either sex, who thinks the diploma of commencement day bestows a charter to possess the earth. It is easy to show how little will come of the confidence of youth in the actual battle for existence. But the power which actually shapes society to higher aims lies largely in these callow youths, and much depends on the direction given to their aspirations. It is notable that the commencement speeches of this and recent years are less hopeful and aggressive than those of twenty years ago. The interest in art, literature and history is greater; that in moral reform seems to be rather on the wane.

Another notable fact is the prominence of young women in the commencement season. There are those still living who can recall when Emma Willard began the higher education of her sex by founding the Troy Seminary. She was told that she would be wanting to send the cows to school next, and the State of New York refused to spend a dollar in aiding her experiment. To-day, in spite of the resistance of our older institutions, women in every part of the country, outside of Philadelphia, enjoy the same facilities for education that men do. And they are embracing these opportunities with an enthusiasm their brothers seem to have lost. They show this by carrying on their studies after graduation. They are now actually in charge of the intellectual interests of most of our American communities. They form the reading circles, control and fill the literary societies, conduct and participate in the University Extension work, establish and use the free libraries, subscribe for the magazines, and in all intellectual matters take the lead of men. The ruder sex gives itself up to making money and managing politics; but unless it mends its ways it will be confined to the former, and women will take politics also into their control. Political power is sure to gravitate to the sex which has the largest intelligence and the heartiest interest in social questions, whether or not it is the best fitted to exercise it.

THE Republican State Committee of New York has published a vindication of the party in the last Legislature. They admit that some important measures of reform were defeated, but point to the fact that the Republican majority in the Senate was so small that the defection of two or three Senators sufficed to destroy it. They declare that Republican leaders worked for the passage of the reformatory laws, but were defeated by those defections. It is quite true that New York always has had its Tammany Republicans, who are more loyal to their secret masters than to the party they openly profess to follow. It was charged, however, that those who resisted and defeated those measures were not acting altogether at the instance of Tammany, but had the secret sanction of the politician who pulls more Republican wires than any other man in the State. To this point the committee does not address itself.

WHILE Mr. Platt blocks the way to reform in New York, Mr. Quay in Pennsylvania—so great is the moral superiority of our own Commonwealth—gives it his most hearty support. It was at his bidding that our State Senate voted to send a committee to Philadelphia to search out all the dark corners of our city government. It was by a distinctly anti-Quay revolt that the House refused to vote the \$20,000 needed to pay the expenses of the committee. Would Mr. Quay's friends have been equally zealous for a committee to investigate the charges made on the floor of Congress with regard to the conduct of a Pennsylvania Senator who had been Treasurer of the Commonwealth? These charges were grave, graver than any made in the United States Senate to the discredit of Mr. Martin, and they came from a much more trustworthy authority. They therefore touched the honor of our Commonwealth very closely. But they remain uninvestigated to this day.

The Municipal Association seem to be impressed with the proverb about honest men coming by their own in certain situations. They have approached that eminent reformer, Hon. William H. Andrews, Chairman of the Senate's Investigating Committee, to ask security that the investigation shall be conducted with reference to "the broad interests of the public," and having received assurance that it will, they have undertaken to raise the \$20,000 needed for the expenses of the committee. It may be well-spent money, and again it may not. But nothing is more certain than that Mr. Andrews is working for one object and the association for quite another.



THE bill to forbid and punish the wearing of any "religious garb" in the schools of this Commonwealth having become a law, is to be tested at once as to its constitutional validity. In Lancaster County the number of Dunkards and Mennonites who wear a peculiar dress is very large. One of these is to be prosecuted for wearing the dress of her sect while teaching in a public school, and the case is to be taken on appeal to the Supreme Court of the State. We have no doubt as to what the decision will be. Judge Jeremiah Black once said that "it takes thirteen men in this State to rob a man," as he set aside an unjust verdict in a civil case. It also takes a Supreme Court, as well as both branches of the Legislature, to abolish the natural and personal rights of our citizens.

THE United States Circuit Court of Appeals has removed a grave source of irritation by overruling Judge Goff's injunction against the holding of a Constitutional Convention in South Carolina. The old Democracy fear this convention as a final blow to their power in the State. They therefore got a black man to sue out the injunction, on the ground that the registration law of the State was such as to debar colored voters from the right of suffrage secured them by the Fifteenth Amendment. The Circuit Court, through Chief-Justice Fuller, very properly swept it aside on the ground that proceedings in equity entered only to the protection of property or civil rights, such as are not alleged to be imperiled. Judge Hughes read a more exhaustive opinion, which contained some questionable positions, as that the amendment invoked has no relation to State elections. This, it may be expected, puts an end to the effort to use the national authority to overthrow the popular party in South Carolina. The Court has acted with laudable promptness, and regardless of any sympathy for the class who were using this black voter to pull their own chestnuts out of the fire.

THE decision of Colonel Dupont to claim the Delaware Senatorship was not reached hastily. Mr. Dupont is a man of sensitive honor, and would never have put forward his claim unless he had first satisfied himself that it was just. After obtaining the best advice as to the right of the acting Governor to vote, he has reached the conclusion that that right does not exist under the laws and Constitution of the State, and that he himself was elected by a lawful majority of the joint convention, as, indeed, the Speaker of the House formally declared at the time. As there is little doubt but that Colonel Dupont will be awarded the seat in the Senate, we may congratulate the country on the accession to its highest assembly of a man of high character and great ability.

THE British Government has not exactly the same interests as Canada in the sealing business. All the sealskins go to London, whether taken by Americans or by Canadians, to be cured and prepared for use. The representatives of this very profitable business are alarmed by the reports that Canadian sealing vessels are taking advantage of the decision of the tribunal of arbitration to exterminate the seals, as they do not care which country does the catching, if they may do the curing. They seem to have warned the British administration to the need of action, and under pretense of replacing an old agreement with Russia, the House of Commons is asked to pass an act to restrain the Canadians from taking seals in the breeding season, and under other conditions thought harmful.

Our own government has been sending some ships to Alaska, and is said to be determined to put an end to this wholesale slaughter. It is a happy circumstance if the ruling of the tribunal has left any opening for such action. But the seals are taken or killed on what the tribunal declares to be the high seas, and over these we have no jurisdiction. We cannot even prevent the Canadians' use of firearms for the purpose, although that has been found especially mischievous, nor can we say that pregnant

seals shall escape the slaughter. Many such have been found floating dead in the open waters of Behring Sea, the neglected gleanings of the Canadian harvest.

THE opening of the canal which connects the waters of the Baltic with the German ocean is to be the most splendid naval display in history. Fully a hundred great ironclads will gather at Kiel on the 19th, a fourth of them being huge battle ships and the rest armed cruisers. Our own government will be represented by four of the latter. It is to be hoped that they will not get in each other's way, as has happened already in such assemblies and with fatal results. A great interest is aroused as to the impression which each country is going to make on the others by the character of its display. It is, in effect, an international exhibition of war ships, and the interest is all the keener because no ships of this class have yet encountered each other in the hands of European or American sailors. They are all costly and dangerous experiments, constructed on the lines of theoretic science, without an atom of experience to direct their architects. Some sensitive Frenchmen wished their own government to abstain from participation, but M. Faure very wisely decided to take part. France could not afford to be absent, even though it is her hereditary enemy who sends the invitation and plans the occasion. Her sailors must learn all that is to be learnt, and must show that they know how to handle these floating masses with the best.

As we predicted, there was something little short of a rebellion in Japan when the concessions to Russia became known. The government has had to suppress newspapers by the score, and those of the *soshi* (professional rowdies) who were not in the army had a happy time in stirring up riots in the big cities. It is expected that Count Ito and his associates in the Ministry will have to resign, but whether this means the overthrow of the bureaucratic aristocracy is not so clear. Like all aristocracies, these new official nobles have the trick of making scapegoats of individuals who have done their work. They have sacrificed more than one premier already to gusts of popular hate, and they will try to do it again. Count Ito, however, is a man of first-class ability, and even if he were willing to be tossed overboard, it is doubtful if the ship can stand the storm. If it cannot, Japan is not unlikely to fall into a chaos of wild and extreme parties whose conduct may force the Mikado to revoke the Constitution. After all is said, he can do just what he pleases, being, in Japanese opinion, a divine person descended from sixty-seven millions of gods.

#### WHAT'S THE CAUSE OF THIS?

THE Philadelphia Press is the authority for the following statement:

"The wheat crop will be less this year than last, but at least 20,000,000 bushels of this shrinkage is due simply to the fact that this much wheat is grown more cheaply elsewhere. Our wheat crop is smaller by taking 2,000,000 acres out of wheat growing; but the world's supply of wheat is not reduced by this amount."

What is the cause of this? How is it that wheat is grown more cheaply elsewhere; that with all our natural advantages the products of our farms are being driven out of the markets of Europe? The cause is to be found in the appreciation of gold, which has greatly increased the burdens of our farmers, while our competitors in the silver-using countries have no new difficulties or increased burdens to contend with.

Our farmers are struggling under the burden of increased interest charges and taxes, while the interest charges and taxes of the farmers in the silver-using countries have remained the same. Taxes and fixed charges in gold-using countries have not decreased with the fall in prices; in silver countries they have not increased with the appreciation of gold. Prices in gold countries having fallen

one-half, it takes twice as much of our labor and of the products of our labor to get the same amount of money as it did before the appreciation of gold. The burden of our taxes and fixed charges has, therefore, been doubled, but our silver competitors labor under no such increased burden, for silver prices have not fallen and the rate of taxes and fixed charges (except where expressly made payable in gold) has neither nominally or practically increased. Therefore it takes no more of the products of men's labor in silver-using countries to pay the same amount of indebtedness or interest charges to-day than it did twenty years ago. In this our farmers work at a great disadvantage.

But this is not the only or most important handicap that our farmers have to contend with. The value of his farm and stock has fallen even more, proportionately, than the value of the products of the farm. Farm wages have not fallen in proportion to the fall in the value of the products of the farm, and as long as prices continue to fall the farmer must be a loser on all the capital he invests in his crops. Paying proportionately higher wages for his help than his silver competitor, here again he is at a grievous disadvantage.

And then again, the retail prices which he must pay for what he buys have not fallen as rapidly nor as far as the wholesale prices at which he must sell the products of his farm. Thus the farmer finds that it takes more corn, more wheat and other products to pay interest charges and taxes, more corn and more wheat to pay for the same amount of labor than it did before the appreciation of gold; he finds it takes more of the products of his farm to pay for the necessities that he must purchase at retail prices, and to cap the climax the value of his farm is more than cut in half.

The farmer in Argentine or Mexico suffers from none of these causes, and all the increased burdens and difficulties with which our farmers have to struggle result in an equal bonus to wheat-raising in the silver-using countries.

It is, then, not surprising that our wheat acreage has fallen off by 2,000,000 acres and that the acreage in the silver-using countries has increased proportionately. To what other cause can the *Press* attribute the falling off in our wheat acreage and the corresponding increase in the wheat acreage of the silver-using countries as given in its own columns? We await an answer.

#### FALSE MEASURES.

"THE eyes of the whole nation are in this hour turned with anxious expectations upon this assembly. For a fatal delusion has taken possession of numbers of the American people. National dishonesty is by many held to be national wisdom. Debasement of the coin of the land, it is believed, will insure our country's prosperity. Dense ignorance, reckless selfishness, vaunting greed have perverted the judgment of hundreds of thousands in the land. False prophets have arisen, corruptors of the people's hearts and minds.

"They call evil good; breach of faith with individuals and nations they commend as highest public virtue. They laugh to scorn the world's experience; the wisdom of the wise is folly in their eyes. O Lord! dire disaster is threatening the American people. National bankruptcy and individual ruin, the misery and degradation of those who work for hire are lying in ambush.

"We beseech Thee, protect the American people from the errors and wiles of those who would lure it from the path of honesty and safety. May the delegates here assembled speak out in no uncertain tones for national honesty. May they declare in clarion notes that there shall be no false weights and false measures, no fraud and no breach of faith in the land of Washington and Lincoln."

Such are the words of prayer with which the Jewish rabbi, Dr. Adolph Moses, opened the second session of the Kentucky Republican Convention—a convention that finally adopted a straddle on the money question, declaring against the unlimited coinage of silver while at the same time demanding the use of both gold and silver as money.

It is, indeed, time that the people of this land should be awakened to the imminent danger of becoming the mere drudges of a small clique of aliens, and those with alien interests, whose policy is dictated "by reckless selfishness and vaunting greed." "False prophets have," indeed, "arisen, corruptors of the people's hearts and minds." But it is not the bimetalists but the clique of gold-monometallists who are the "false prophets"—they who are vigorously pushing the campaign of falsehood and deceit by vehemently calling black white, and by hurling offensive epithets at their opponents, and these enemies of progress have not the excuse of "dense ignorance" for their action. They are thoroughly alive to the revolutionary changes which they advocate and they are urged forward by the temptation of dishonest and enormous gains, at the expense and the ruin of thousands of hard-working toilers and producers.

"Dire disaster is," indeed, "threatening the American people," and "misery and degradation" stare the wage-earners in the face, but not from the restoration of honest money, of silver to its place side by side with gold, but from the continued appreciation of gold. Fortunately the American people are not "densely ignorant," but fully capable of thinking for themselves. When they fairly consider the question they must come to the conclusion reached by the United Labor League of Philadelphia, as expressed in the following resolutions:

"*Be it Resolved*, That we, the United Labor League of Philadelphia and Vicinity, indorse the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, with the same privileges, to the same rights as gold.

"*Resolved*, That we condemn the coinage of gold as the only redemption money as an un-American, un-Constitutional currency, believing it to be injurious to the government and very detrimental and extortionate to the producing and debt-paying classes."

It is, indeed, time that the American people "declare in clarion notes that there shall be no false weights and measures, no fraud and no breach of faith in the land of Washington and Lincoln." But the crime of tampering with the measure of value must be laid at the door of the gold-monometallists. The bimetalists demand the restoration of silver for the simple reason that gold, cut adrift from silver, has proved to be the falsest of false measures. The gold standard, the most dishonest of measures, fluctuates at the bidding of any clique of speculators, and is at the mercy of every government that elects to use or discard it, thus raising or depressing its value. Before silver was demonetized it served to steady gold. It did not absolutely fix the value of the standard, but the addition of silver to the measure of value kept it within reasonable bounds, and no great inconvenience was experienced from the slow and gradual fluctuations.

Thus when gold and silver were linked together a "compound standard of value was established similar in its action to the compensating pendulum, or an automatic equilibrating apparatus, which, though not so absolutely invariable as the other standards (measures of weight, quantity and distance), was as nearly so as anything that human ingenuity has been able as yet to devise, and this system worked well and to the complete satisfaction of the entire commercial world, so long as it was in use." (W. S. Wetmore.)

With demonetization, gold and silver were rent asunder, gold was alone made the measure of value and it has doubled in value, causing a like fall in the prices of all commodities. The gold countries have in reality been left without a standard of value at all, for that cannot be called a standard which is itself constantly fluctuating.

National honesty, faith and prosperity, the preservation of the independence of the producing classes, the salvation of the nation itself, demand the restoration of bimetalism and the re-establishment of a stable measure of value—the most important and far-reaching of all our measures.



## CAUSE OF FALLING PRICES.

IN our issue of June 1st we commented upon the annual report of the American Iron and Steel Association, denying that the fall in prices has been due to the "world's capacity to produce more \* \* \* than the world can consume," or to the cheapening of production, and showing that it has not been due to overproduction. We concluded by stating that "there is only one explanation to the fall in prices of iron and steel products, namely, the appreciation of gold."

The *Bulletin* of the American Iron and Steel Association takes us to task for our comments and conclusions, and declares that "THE AMERICAN did not correctly quote what we (the American Iron and Steel Association) said of this world-wide cause" of falling prices. As a matter of fact, THE AMERICAN did quote correctly, the quotation, which was as follows, being taken from page 17 of the annual report: "We can see no reason to change our previously expressed opinion that the principal cause (of the fall in prices) is to be found in the world's capacity to produce more food, clothing, carpets, iron and steel and other articles of necessity than the world can consume."

The *Bulletin* in its issue of June 10th goes on to say that there has been no overproduction of iron and steel in this country for many years, a fact that we emphasized in the article called in question, thus proving that the fall in prices has not been caused by overproduction. When we referred to the report of the Iron and Steel Association as attributing the fall in prices to overproduction, we did so under a misapprehension, as is shown by the above declaration of the *Bulletin* that there has been no overproduction. Following this declaration the *Bulletin* says: "There has, however, long existed the capacity to produce more steel rails and pig iron than the country could consume, and the knowledge of this fact has exercised a depressing influence on the prices of these products. And so with all other iron and steel products."

Capacity to produce more than the country can consume, implies one of two things: either too many furnaces and rolling mills have been built or the power of consumption of the people has fallen off. During the thirty-nine months from January, 1892, to March, 1895, the increase of furnaces and mills did not keep pace with the growth of population, nor was the productive capacity of the old mills materially increased; yet the average price of nine leading commodities of the iron and steel trade fell by 33.7 per cent. This proves that the fall in prices was no more due to an increased capacity of production—in other words, to an overproduction of furnaces and mills—than to the overproduction of the manufactured products. We must then fall back on the curtailed consuming, or rather purchasing, power of the people as an explanation of the fall in prices. The *Bulletin* on this point, and after speaking of new inventions and the resulting increased capacity to overproduce, says: "Hence we have from this cause alone a constant tendency to lower prices, and, of course, when a panic comes, contracting credits and checking consumption, this tendency is greatly intensified."

In this we get an admission as to the true cause of falling prices. Here the *Bulletin* admits that the contraction of credits resulting in a panic will check consumption. Why? Because the increased value of money will curtail the purchasing power of the people.

If the contraction of credits can put a check to consumption, a fact of which there is no question, how much greater must be the check to consumption caused by the contraction of the metallic basis itself, on which all credit rests! By cutting the money of the world in half its value was doubled and the purchasing power of the people correspondingly curtailed.

THE AMERICAN, while denying the possibility of a general overproduction of all commodities at one and the same time, has always recognized and so stated that overproduction in one line of goods may, and often has, occurred, thus causing a temporary fall

in prices, and when the *Bulletin* says we deny "that overproduction in some cases is a distinct and well-understood cause of low prices," it is in error. But neither the theory of overproduction, or decreased cost of production—that is, improved methods of manufacture—nor of capacity of overproduction, can be made to satisfactorily account for the great fall in prices of the products of iron and steel since 1873. The only true explanation for the great fall in the gold price of commodities is, that it is not commodities which have materially fallen, but gold, in which they are measured, that has risen.

It surprises us that the editor of the *Bulletin* of the Iron and Steel Association, as well as some other protectionist editors, have not seen that the protective system cannot be maintained if we continue to adhere to the single gold standard.

## FALLACY THAT MINIMUM COST MEASURES VALUE.

QUITE frequently we hear the assertion that silver being produced at 35 cents on the dollar, or even less in some favorably situated mines, it is not fit for use as money because its value must conform to this cheap cost of production. This statement that the cost of production of silver in the richest mines regulates the price of silver is all the more extraordinary in that such an explanation of value has not found place in any book on political economy in the last century.

The Ricardian school of economists, whose teachings the gold-monometallists are prone to follow, long taught, and the doctrine (though proven to be false) is still taught, that value is regulated by the cost of production to those working under the most disadvantageous circumstances, and the profit which other producers working under more favorable circumstances received was and is considered as rent. It was taught that the value of a bushel of wheat was fixed by the cost of raising a bushel on the most unproductive land, and that the cost of cotton goods was fixed by the cost of manufacture in the most disadvantageously placed mill, and the one operating under the most adverse conditions, etc. Ricardo and his disciples taught that while one acre of land would produce 30 bushels of wheat, another would produce with the same amount of labor only 15, and that, therefore, the owner of the land that produced 30 bushels could command a rent of 15 bushels of wheat per annum for his land. The same rule was, of course, applied to factories and mines.

Applying these rules to silver, its value would not be regulated by the minimum cost of production, but by the maximum cost of production; of course, excluding the cost of production in mines opened and then abandoned because unprofitable. If the value of silver was thus fixed by the maximum cost of production, it would be worth at least double the coinage value.

The doctrine of Ricardo, is, however, palpably false. Value is not fixed by the maximum cost of production, nor is rent derived from the superior advantages, or productive capacity, that one farm or mill has over another. The rent which a factory will command is the sum equal to the annual interest on the amount of money that it would cost to duplicate the factory with its improved appliances, and so the rent a farm will bring is not the difference between its large productiveness and the smaller yield of the farm whose soil is the most unproductive, but the interest on the capital that it would be necessary to spend to clear and drain as equally productive a piece of land as that in the market for rent. It may be urged that the land being already occupied, more farms of equal productiveness cannot be brought under cultivation. The answer to this is that the best lands are not yet occupied and that it is the poorer lands that are first occupied because they can be more easily worked.

It is perfectly clear that no one would rent a factory for \$20,000 a year when he could borrow the money and duplicate it for \$10,000. It is an amount equal to the interest on the sum of money that it will take to duplicate a factory or farm or mine that

can be obtained as rent and fixes the value of those already in use. This is the unassailable law promulgated by Henry C. Carey. It is not the cost of production, but the cost of reproduction that regulates values.

In the case of mines, and especially of gold and silver mines, this law must be modified, because the cost of duplicating them, even if possible, which is accidental, cannot be estimated, and their yield is uncertain and incalculable. The price of all commodities is fixed by the law of demand and supply, and the precious metals are no exception to the rule. But while the prices of most commodities are kept within bounds by the cost of reproduction—production increasing or falling with increased or decreased demand—the price of the precious metals is less amenable to the regulation of the cost of reproduction, because the control of production is beyond the control of man, and an increased demand cannot be compensated by an increased production. Therefore it would be possible for the precious metals to command prices considerably higher than the cost of production. But, as a matter of fact, man's hope for rapid gain is so strong that many men are attracted to search and mine for gold and silver, and continue the pursuit even when but scantily rewarded, in the hope of a sudden and future reward in a rich find. As a result it is an undoubted fact that, taken as a whole, the gold and silver-mining industry is unprofitable, more money being spent in obtaining the gold and silver than is received for the bullion.

The census of 1890 gives a profit on a capital of \$486,000,000 invested in gold and silver mines at less than 5 per cent., and this, of course, excludes all the money sunk in individual and unprofitable ventures. It presents only the rosy side of the picture, and it must be admitted that even the rosy side is none too bright. It is estimated that it cost over \$1,000,000,000 in order to produce less than \$250,000,000 of gold in California during the four years when production was at its height, and the Australian Mining Commission of 1854 gave the average production of gold per miner at £5 12 shillings per month, and the average wages paid each miner per month at over £13. In other words, every dollar of gold produced during the four years of greatest production in California cost \$4, and the cost of producing one pound sterling of gold in Australia in 1854 was about £2 10 shillings.

On the other hand, we find the average cost of producing a dollar of gold in the Independence Mine of Cripple Creek, Col., for the first three months of this year, as given by Mr. W. F. Kendrick, of Denver, Col., has been but .0376 cents; \$399,000 of gold were produced at a cost of \$15,000, or less than 4 cents on the dollar. If, as some of our rash gold-monometallists insist, the value of the precious metals is measured by the minimum cost of production, our gold dollar is worth only 4 cents!

It is perfectly plain that the minimum cost of production has nothing to do with the price. It is the relation of the demand to the supply that fixes the value of the precious metals and nothing else, and the relative demand for gold and silver can, to all intents and purposes, be absolutely controlled by legislation.

#### THE SONG OF JUNE.

HEIGH ho, hilly ho!  
The lads and lassies call;  
Heigh ho, the roses blow  
All on the garden wall;  
And the soft green grass,  
Oh, it grows for the feet  
Of the lad and the lass  
Merry time on 't to beat;  
And the red and white rose,  
Oh, they blow for the hair  
Of the lass whose cheek glows  
As she dances off care.  
Then heigh ho, hilly ho!  
The lads' and lassies' tune;  
Heigh ho! and hearts glow,  
In the joyous month of June.

MARCO MORROW, in *Womankind*.

#### WOMAN'S WAYS.

EMPRESS EUGENIE has nearly completed her memoirs, which are not to be published till after her death.

\*\*\*

May—Why have you stopped using powder? Was it injuring your complexion?

Amy—No, but it was ruining Charley's new coat.

\*\*\*

The Venus de Medicis is in height, 5 feet 7 inches; across the shoulders, 16½ inches; bust, 38; arm, 12; thigh, 24; calf, 12; neck, 13½; hips, 42; length of leg, 32; length of arm, 28; ankle, 9½.

\*\*\*

Mrs. Julia A. Carney wrote the jingle beginning "Little drops of water, little grains of sand," when a teacher in a Boston primary school, and while penning a simple article for her little ones on the value of moments.

\*\*\*

Mrs. Clio Hinton Huneker, who is to receive \$10,000 for her Fremont statue, which she was commissioned to execute by the "Associated Pioneers" of California, is said to be only twenty-four years old. She is a pupil of St. Gaudens.

\*\*\*

The Duchess of Beaufort upon the death of her husband shut herself up in a room veiled with black, and refused to be comforted. A Quaker who found her thus disconsolate and closeted said: "What, hast thou not yet forgiven Almighty God?" Such was the rebuke that she immediately came forth and went about the performance of her usual and necessary duties.

\*\*\*

Miss Ellen Terry is, it seems, an enthusiastic cyclist. "On every opportunity I get," she says, "I ride miles and miles, and find it helpful to me in my thinking out and studying of the many arduous parts I have to play." No one has yet, however, been able to induce Miss Terry to adopt the "rational" dress; she still clings to the conventional habit which, an advocate of the new style says, "of course returns the compliment of clinging to her."

\*\*\*

One of our most brilliant writers gives us this bit of conversation which took place between an arrogant woman of the world and a young lady: "I have never liked you, and there are others who feel the same toward you." "Very likely," was the calm reply. "I used to feel badly when I heard that So-and-So, and Mrs. This or Mr. That did not like me, until I learned to look and see who and what they did like, and since then I have never been discontented or dissatisfied with myself because some one did not like me."

\*\*\*

It is advisable for every new woman, who lives by rules and plans, to have one petticoat reserved exclusively for rainy-day walking. It should be faced some distance from the bottom with waterproof cloth. There will then be almost perfect protection for the feet and ankles in wet weather, and much of the erstwhile grip, especially among business women, who must steam in wet skirts in hot offices all day, will be averted, and the girl that wears a sensible, rainy-weather petticoat will rise up and call the woman who first suggested it blessed.

\*\*\*

The latest fad adopted by our more advanced sisters in Berlin is the adoption of the eyeglass. True, the glass is seldom stuck into the eye, but is worn round the neck on a band of ribbon, which has somewhat the effect of an order. To be correct, the glass must be small and set in a narrow rim of gold or tortoise shell, the latter being most popular. When used it should be held up daintily, and the wearer must do her best to appear as if she could see through it—which in nine cases out of ten she cannot. In the opinion of many this new craze does not harmonize, somehow, with the general aspect of the average Teuton lady.



## A CHAPTER ABOUT CHILDREN.

A MODEL CHILD.

HER temper's always sunny, her hair is ever neat;  
She doesn't care for candy—she says it is too sweet!  
She loves to study lessons—her sums are always right;  
And she gladly goes to bed at eight every single night!

Her apron's never tumbled, her hands are always clean;  
With buttons missing from her shoe she never has been seen;  
She remembers to say "Thank you," and "Yes, ma'am, if you please";  
And she never cries, nor frets, nor whines; she's never been known  
-to tease.

Each night upon the closet shelf she puts away her toys;  
She never slams the parlor door, nor makes the slightest noise;  
But she loves to run on errands and to play with little brother,  
And she's never in her life been known to disobey her mother.

"Who is this charming little maid?"

I long to clasp her hand!"

She's the daughter of Mr. Nobody,

And she lives in Nowhereland!

HELEN HOPKINS, in *St. Nicholas* for May.

\*\*

A little girl who is accustomed to the plainest style of living was taken by her mother to dine with a rich friend lately. On her returning to her humble home she called out to her sister, in an ecstasy of triumph and delight, "Oh, Polly, we had four dinners, all one after another!"

\*\*

A touching story comes from Turin. In a narrow valley, near the celebrated Thermæ di Vinadio, there is a little hamlet, which, every winter is almost completely separated from the rest of the world by the snow. A few days ago an avalanche rolled into the valley, and, reaching some of the houses, carried off the roof of one and completely crushed and buried another, in which were two peasants and their child.

The neighbors immediately proceeded to dig them out, making a tunnel through the snow, but found the mother and father dead. The baby, however, was found in its cradle under two tables, which had fallen one against the other, forming a kind of roof. A dog was also in the cradle, with its nose near the face of the child.

## NOTES ABOUT NEWSPAPERS.

THE St. Louis *Chronicle* is doing its level best to have the national conventions of both the great parties held in that sweltering city in 1896.

\*\*

The June *Ladies' Home Journal* has a number of bright and readable articles and practical hints for summer life.

\*\*

The Lebanon (Ind.) *Evening News* has suspended publication. Its editor believes that the Lebanonites "didn't know a good thing when they saw it."

\*\*

Editor Webb, of the Garrettsville (Ohio) *Journal*, was severely injured a few days ago by a boiler explosion in the machinery department of his carefully edited newspaper.

\*\*

The editor of the Kansas *Voice*, in his valedictory, a few days ago, said: "The editor is going to quit preaching irrigation and go to practising it." He'll patronize a bar in some other State.

\*\*

C. W. S. Wilgus has bought the Ravenna (Ohio) *Graphic*, from the Sherwood Brothers. F. E. Denton will be the managing editor of the *Graphic*, which will hereafter be issued weekly instead of semi-weekly.

\*\*

W. H. Harvey has begun the publication of a one-cent paper which he calls *Chicago Daily Coin*. Charles S. Collins is its editor-in-chief. *Coin* is small and unpretentious in appearance, yet it may do good work.

Those who are conversant with Col. A. K. McClure's success as a political prophet smilingly assert that one of the most favorable indications of the coming victory of bimetalism is the fact that he is beginning to predict its early defeat.

\*\*

The Albuquerque (N. M.) *Morning Democrat* is justly proud over the possession of a new outfit of type of "the most artistic class," and confidently announces its intention to grow better. There are lots of room for it to do so in the great Southwest.

\*\*

One of the breeziest and most interesting of our exchanges is the *State Herald*, published at Ardmore, Indian Territory. It was formerly called the *Chickasaw Chieftain*, and its enterprising publishers find its financial returns "as good as wheat in the bin."

\*\*

The Chicago *Inter-Ocean* boasts that it "scooped the country" in its Washington dispatches announcing that Attorney-General Olney had been offered and had accepted the appointment of Secretary of State. It adds that in big things of that sort "it is generally twenty-four hours ahead of its esteemed morning contemporaries."

\*\*

The New York *Tribune* tells a story about the Rev. J. F. Wilcox, of Chicago, who, having been locked out of his church some days ago, began to preach on the sidewalk. "His congregation consisted of one man. The preacher read his text and Bible lesson. The congregation sat down on the curb and appeared interested. The minister plunged into his subject and delivered an impressive sermon. Then he pronounced the benediction and, grasping the man by the hand, said: 'Brother, your presence has been a source of gratification and pride to me. May I inquire who you are?' 'I am a reporter,' said the man.

\*\*

Brown (expert shorthand reporter)—I say, James, the boy from the newspaper office, has called for the report of that lecture. Is it finished?

James (a novice)—All but a short sentence in the middle of it, and I can't for the life of me make out from my notes what it is.

Brown—Oh, just put in great applause and let it go.

James acts on the suggestion, and the lecture is sent for publication with the doctored part reading:

"Friends, I will detain you but a few moments longer." (Great applause.)

## BRIC-A-BRAC.

ENGLISH clergy adopted silk gowns for church use in 1534.

\*\*

Much as the modest violet loves the shade, it blooms best on the side where the afternoon sun shines.

\*\*

The 1,000-mile ship-canal between the Baltic and Black seas will be completed in five years and will cost \$100,000,000.

\*\*

A wood statuette, dating back to the eighteenth dynasty of the Pharaohs, and valued at 10,000 francs, has recently been added to the Louvre.

\*\*

The phrase "a crucial test" has the whole history of science in it. It expresses the certainty which has always come to every one who has made any great and radical discovery in any department of science that he and his principle will be put *ad crucem*—that is, "to the cross." If they come to life again after the crucifixion, then so much the better for them and for the world. It is the world's method of defending itself through the conservatism of authority against false science. But it fails most frequently because of the great liability of those who are and are not in the Sanhedrin to do honor to Barabbas and make a bonfire of Galileo.

## PHILADELPHIA'S SENTIMENT.

### EMPHATICALLY IN FAVOR OF BIMETALLISM.

A REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTS  
A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES—A FORCEFUL  
AND THOUGHTFUL DOCUMENT THAT  
APPEALS TO EVERY CITIZEN.

### THE BIMETALLIC ASSOCIATION FORMED.

ON Wednesday afternoon a meeting of citizens representative of the professional, mercantile, manufacturing, commercial and industrial interests of the city of Philadelphia was held in the offices of THE AMERICAN, 119 South Fourth Street, for the purpose of giving expression to the sentiment of this city in favor of bimetallism. Mr. John H. Lorimer occupied the chair and Mr. Wilmer W. Miller acted as Secretary.

Mr. John H. Lorimer opened the proceedings with a brief address as follows:

#### MR. LORIMER'S ADDRESS.

We are brought together by a feeling of existing danger to our common interests and to seek a way out of the fog which seems to envelop those who think, as well as those who think they think.

If the conditions existing in our country justify, in any degree, the course which our one-metal money friends are pursuing, or if they are justified in believing that all who differ with them as to whether we should have one or two metal foundations for our credit money are repudiators of debts, passers of counterfeit, or half-value money, and otherwise utterly dishonest; then, indeed, is our condition as a nation deplorable and the outlook more serious than even the most advanced among us can imagine it to be.

On the other hand, if it is not so grave as to justify their un-American and altogether unmanly methods, it goes to prove that we have in our midst an organized one-metal-gold-money party more compact, better equipped, more ably led and more dangerous to human liberty than all the Anarchists and Socialists of all Christendom are now or ever can be, who will control us if we fail to do our duty to-day and in our time.

This duty means the quiet but effective presentation to the plain people of all the facts in the case. It needs no pyrotechnical display of official theories or power, but only the truth as it actually exists, and which in its simple might, as truth properly presented, will sweep all the heresies of our one-metal-money friends into the oblivion to which they belong. Therefore, I hope that everyone present will be inspired with that patriotic fire which in every crisis of our country has been found ready to blaze forth when danger to our American institutions has been seen.

That the present danger is the greatest our country or civilization has ever met is plain, because it is more subtle, more far-reaching in that it has clothed its arguments in stolen phraseology, and used such catch-phrases as "honest money," "sound money," "50-cent dollar," otherwise "dishonest dollar."

Then, too, our President, having been hoisted to his pinnacle of fame and power by these same forces and the same theft of popular ideas clothed in catch-phrases, is now ready to do the bidding of his employers, and is willing to forge the last link in the chain which would enslave a thrifty, honorable and aspiring people.

This phrase-making President has taught us that civil service reform, under his control, means more removals from public office than ever before, and that his jewel of phrases, that "public office is a public trust," can be certified to mean that public office may be a sugar or a whisky trust, and is even now a flourishing bond trust. Therefore, I say, prepare for the struggle which is upon us—a struggle for the very existence of our American civilization.

This struggle requires different treatment and different methods from any that has preceded it. IT NEEDS ONLY THE EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE.

Up to within five hours of the firing on Fort Sumter it was almost impossible to find in this great city, or, indeed, in the whole North, anyone who could believe that war was possible between the sections.

So now it seems impossible to believe that there exists in our midst a party whose policy is so unpatriotic, so un-American as that which controls our one-metal-gold-money friends.

Let us hope that the light of truth may dawn on all our people before it is possible for an overt act to break peace between the contending forces and so lead the struggle into a baser field where only might is right.

The struggle now is between intelligent human beings of equal rights before the law; but it may be forced outside of law, and become a struggle between American types of civilization and those we had hoped were passed by forever by our race.

Let your deliberation proceed earnestly on the lines laid down by the founders of our national existence, and we will all live to see our government of the people, by the people, and for the people perpetuated on a plan worthy of all concerned and blessed by the God of our fathers.

It was unanimously resolved to organize the Bimetallic Association, and the meeting elected the following as its permanent officers: Mr. James Dobson, President; Mr. John H. Lorimer, First Vice-President; Mr. Joseph Thompson, Second Vice-President; Mr. Richard Campion, Third Vice-President; Mr. Henry A. Fry, Treasurer, and Mr. Wilmer W. Miller, Secretary.

The following directors were also chosen:

James Dobson,	John H. Lorimer,
Richard Campion,	Joseph Thompson,
Dr. Robt. Ellis Thompson,	Wharton Barker,
Dr. Wm. Carroll,	R. E. Diffenderfer,
A. M. Brinkley,	C. Howard Schermerhorn,
David McMenamin,	J. W. Campion,
Henry Carey Baird,	Frank Burrows,
Edward R. Wood,	Dr. Gilbert E. Palen,
Edward Stern,	A. Jackson Wright,
Wm. Rennyson,	Dr. A. H. P. Leuf.

#### DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

The following declaration of principles, prepared by a committee of three, of which the Rev. Dr. Robert Ellis Thompson was Chairman, was presented and unanimously adopted:

The urgent need for active work in the education of the people as to the principles involved in the silver question grows out of two circumstances.

The first is the intolerable oppression the country is enduring under the single gold standard, and the advantage this offers to Socialistic and Anarchistic factions to work upon the general distress in the interest of revolutionary destruction. If our social order is to continue it must prove itself adequate to securing the general prosperity.

The second circumstance is the active and well-supported propaganda of another not less revolutionary party to diffuse false doctrines and imaginary "facts" about silver and gold among those who have no time for economic and statistical studies. Having succeeded, under a cloak of false pretenses, in driving silver from the place it has held for thousands of years in the world's currency, they are now seeking to create a party on behalf of this monetary revolution. They desire, for their own advantage, to secure the permanence of a situation which has deranged commerce, deprived the producing classes of the just rewards of their labor, and added enormously to the burden of all public and private debts. In this they have the active support of the present administration.

It is therefore in the interests of the truest conservatism that the Bimetallic Association has been established to carry on the work of popular education. It has been organized and is supported by men fully alive to the necessity of supporting public and private honor in the adequate payment of debt, and to the need of a national currency stable in value and of equal worth in all its kinds. They decline, however, to identify these great objects with the maintenance of the single gold standard, and that for the following reasons:

- (1) The supply of both gold and silver which is available for the world's coinage is not in excess of the world's needs.
- (2) The relative amount of silver in this supply is greatly



inferior to what it was fifty years ago, when the two metals maintained a stable ratio at 1:15.5.

(3) The change in their comparative values has not been produced by any excess in the supply of silver, but by its artificial exclusion from the mints of the civilized world.

(4) This exclusion has produced an equal appreciation in the value of gold, by throwing upon it the burden of effecting the world's exchanges and organizing its productive forces.

(5) The effect of this rise in the value of gold has been to force down the nominal value of everything it measures, thus making it impossible for the producer to pay his debts at the present gold prices of his products, and adding vastly to the general burden of public indebtedness.

(6) It is not in the interest of any class of silver miners, but in those of the producers of our country and of the world, that we urge the prompt restitution of silver to its place in the money of the nation.

(7) While it is most desirable to have this effected by an international bimetallic agreement such as once existed throughout Christendom, America cannot afford to wait for this, for delay threatens to prevent prompt relief of our producing classes. She must act for herself, with due regard to the retention of her gold currency alongside silver, and with a view to commanding or even compelling similar action on the part of other countries.

On these grounds we declare our purpose to work for the resumption of silver into the money of the country on the same footing as during the first three-quarters of a century of our national existence. And we invite men of all parties who agree with us in this declaration of principles, whatever their view as to the best method of effecting these objects, to give us their aid in securing the general prosperity.

#### OUR LONDON LETTER.

LONDON, June 1, 1895.

THE fact that Parliament, at its rising yesterday for the Whitsuntide recess, adjourned for nine instead of the promised five days has attracted some attention. That the government, which during its short tenure of office has been so remarkable for its great anxiety to press forward its programme, should of its own wish curtail its working days, is somewhat significant. It rather points to an indifference the cause of which must be sought in the general election, which now may be expected at any moment. It is not thought by everyone that this adjournment is only the immediate prelude to the longer interval of a general election, although a certain portion of the London press, which is notorious for its onslaught on the Ministry and for its allegiance to a *soi disant* Radical party, clamors that this is at last the retribution which overtakes all governments who do not think as it does; it affirms that the dissolution is only a matter of days, and that the lengthened holidays have been taken so that Ministers may have a last look round. But in these times with a tottering government, the greatest significance is attached to the most trivial things; the shadow of events passes for the events themselves, and political critics and *quidnuncs* see in the meanest action some potent threatening disaster to the government. More weight should be attached to the fact that the party whips are making the most strenuous exertions to avoid absentions on the 10th of June, when Parliament reassembles: this marshaling of the forces so soon after the holidays can only point to the imminence of critical divisions, and as the opposition have it in their power by certain combinations to defeat the government, or at any rate to make its adherence to office a matter of impossibility, it may truly be said that we are on the verge of a dissolution here.

#### BIMETALLISM MORE THAN "HOLDS ITS OWN."

The very composition and condition of the Ministry should have precluded the possibility of a long existence; the retirement of Mr. Gladstone was enough to shatter any party, and the jealousy which was engendered among his colleagues in filling up his place must have led to very grave differences of opinion in the Cabinet, and this could not tend to promote the ends they had in view. We have now an invalid Premier, a disappointed Chancellor of the Exchequer, an academic Home Secretary and as the Secretary of State for Ireland a philosophical incompetent.

The monometallists have presented their memorial formally to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and have received his official and formal benison. With regard to the memorial itself it was never a healthy specimen, and after the most protracted labors it had to undergo a severe operation immediately after its birth in the shape of a sweeping revision. This took place as follows: The first memorial as published by the *Times*, which paper, on monometallic matters at least, may be taken to be correct, after alluding to the "growing agitation in favor of what is called bimetallicism," goes on to say: "We, the undersigned merchants and bankers in the city of London, believe that any serious attempt to modify it (the currency) by the substitution of silver as a standard of value, either alone or concurrently with gold, would be followed by consequences dangerous to the interests which we specially represent." \* \* \*

The italicized words, however, were removed in the later editions of the memorial, and the words "dangerous to the trade and commerce of the country" substituted. Why this was done it is difficult to say, for in support of those interests which they specially represented, monometallists have for a long time upheld a system which is at the root of all the evils that now beset our trade and commerce, and foolish as the first phrase was, it was never expected that they would so much withdraw from the position they have held so long as to concede that their special and private interests were second to the vast interests of the Empire. They have in this case sacrificed prejudice on the altars of discretion. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has in reply assured the movement of the support of the government, which may mean that the Gold Defense Association can bask in the sunshine of authority for a little while longer. It will be curious to note their attitude when another party is in power.

A most interesting discussion on the currency question was held here a few days ago. It was the first time that anything of this description has been attempted in London, and it shows to what an extent the interest in the subject has increased. As a prelude to this discussion there had been read on previous days two papers representing the bimetallic and the monometallic sides respectively; Mr. Herbert C. Gibbs did service for the bimetallics and Mr. Tritton for the monometallists. The discussion, which was conducted under the presidency of the Rt. Hon. Leonard Courtney, M.P., was remarkable for the interest it excited, the theatre of the London Institution, where it was held, being most inconveniently crowded. The speakers included the highest authorities on the currency question, and the most prominent were Sir William Houldsworth, Bart. M.P., Sir Samuel Montagu, Bart. M.P., Sir Robert Edgcumbe, Sir David Barbour, R.C.S.I., Mr. S. Smith, M.P., and Mr. H. R. Grenfell on the bimetallic side, while on the monometallic side there were Mr. Bertram Currie, Mr. Brodie Hoare, M.P., and Mr. Tritton. From these names it will be seen that the great financial, banking and commercial interests were represented, while Sir David Barbour is one of our greatest authorities on Indian finance. The discussion, it need hardly be said, was of the highest order, although Mr. Currie rather spoilt his case (*sic*) by a rhodomontade of abuse. The bimetallics were in the ascendancy both from ability and from knowledge, and the city has never witnessed such severe treatment administered to monometallists. It has created a deep impression, and many who have hitherto pinned their faith to the Lombard Street section are now beginning to waver, when they see how unmistakably feeble their high priests are; as Mr. Goschen said at the dinner of the British Economic Association, "Bimetallics hold, or more than hold their own, as regards theoretical arguments." It now only remains to dissipate the prejudice that results from the erstwhile strong position that the monometallist bankers hold here.

#### A SICK PREMIER.

The health of the Premier, Lord Rosebery, is at present the subject of grave apprehension. An attack of influenza early in the year has left him so weak that he cannot attend to official

work to any extent, and the only attempt he has made since his illness at public speaking, which was on the occasion of a recent gathering at the National Liberal Club, resulted in such a serious *contretemps* that he has been silent since. In the course of this speech he suddenly faltered, half turned, and was seen to make a gesture as if about to swoon. By an immense effort he recovered himself, and with a serenity that is Lord Rosebery's own continued, or rather finished his address. It was evident that he was dreadfully shaken by this evidence of a weakness, of which he had up to then formed no correct estimate; and though of a sanguine temperament and constitution it will be some time before he can hope to undertake the heavier labors of office.

He is not, of course, sufficiently ill to have to keep his bed, or even to be confined to the house, but the fact that he continues under medical treatment while able to go about and be present in Parliament betokens apprehension on the part of those round about him which cannot be ignored. The Premier is, however, not of that disposition to give way easily, and he keeps his appointments and performs his duties as far as he dare. He was present at Epsom to see the Derby won for the second successive time by one of his horses. This extraordinary piece of good fortune, which is without parallel in the annals of the greatest of English races and which probably will never be repeated, was attended by one of those remarkable demonstrations of feeling of which an English crowd is alone capable. The roar that went up from the vast mob as Lord Rosebery's colors swept by the winning post beggars description, and it must have filled the Premier's heart with exultation as, in the midst of a surging crowd that was tumultuous with enthusiasm, he led his horse from the winning post to the paddock followed by the most sincere cheers that perhaps have ever been heard on that or any race course. He has now improved upon the wish he expressed as a young man to be Prime Minister, to marry the heiress of her year and to win the Derby. He has accomplished the two first and the latter he has done twice.

#### MEN YOU HEAR ABOUT.

CHOWFA MAHA VAJIRAVADH, the new Crown Prince of Siam, is about fifteen years old, and is at present a student in the celebrated college at Eton, England.

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Sterne was best pleased with his sermons. There is no indication in his biography that he regarded "Tristram Shandy" as other than a piece of work for a bookseller. The sermons are never heard of, but "Tristram" is still with us.

#### OUR PARIS LETTER.

PARIS, May 31, 1895.

THE ratifications of the Shimonoseki treaty having been signed, sealed and exchanged, the Chino-Japanese quarrel belongs, logically, to the domain of ancient history. Unluckily, however, the divers contracting parties are at outs *in re* the execution of the conditions of this so-called amicable arrangement with which none of them are quite satisfied. Russia has a vague notion that the wily Orientals have tricked her diplomatists, and that "perfidious Albion" has not been a stranger to some hocus-pocus game by which Corea will be abstracted from her influence. Spain is exercised about the Pescadores and Formosa and so are the French, but for what reason the latter should prefer a Chinese to a Japanese administration in those islands is not apparent. Even John Chinaman grumbles; although overjoyed at a relief from the bugbear of war, John vastly prefers the surrender of any number of provinces to an increase of the indemnity which he must pay in lieu thereof, and, consequently, as the conquerors pretend to hold on in possession until that indemnity be fully paid, John will delay as long as possible to settle outstanding accounts. This, at least, seems to be the Celestials' platform.

Perhaps the Germans are content; their aim was the opening of Chinese markets to their commerce, and this they have obtained to the detriment of British interests in the far East. Still this success can be of only temporary advantage. German cheap labor will not be able to compete, for any length of time, with Japanese cheap labor, and sooner or later the latter must inevitably drive all rivals out of the field of trade. The Japanese are independent of importations; their soil produces everything necessary to work upon; their workmen are industrious, sober, intelligent, and are satisfied with low wages, *e. g.* skilled mechanics earn, at the outside, 60 cents per diem, ordinary factory hands from 14 to 24 cents and day laborers 8 cents, while workwomen are paid *only one-fourth as much as in France and one-sixth as much as in the United States*; every European or American invention is copied, often improved upon by the Japanese engineers, and, judging of the future from the past and the present, the day is not far distant when the Empire of the Rising Sun will enjoy the absolute monopoly of Asiatic trade.

#### MATTERS IN A "MIXED" CONDITION.

The situation then is not materially modified by the intervention of the Western powers, and, to use a cant term, continues to be "mixed," being, moreover, singularly complicated by the incident—as yet somewhat apochryphal—of the proclamation of a republic in Formosa. Republican institutions are so foreign to the temperament of Asiatics, that, if the report be confirmed, it is impossible not to see in the matter promptings from some outside interested party. Be this, however, as it may, the corollary of the Chino-Japanese problem is likely to present great international importance, given the many elements of discord existing, at least in a latent state, among the nations of the Old World.

The keynote to this *imbroglio* is to be found in the attitude of the so-called "independent" Russian press, which means those organs of the press not officially inspired by the government, but which, in reality, reflect the views of that government, without whose sanction they would be exposed to severe penalties. The tone of this fraction of the Russian press contrasts strongly with the mellifluous language of the semi-official *St. Petersburg Gazette*; it is comminatory and extremely violent, and denounces in no measured terms Japanese disloyalty, and the "secret aims and intrigues" of England. The *Novosti*, a very influential journal, even goes so far as to declare that "a close affinity is patent between the questions of the far East and of Egypt, and, unless Europe be disposed to see the Mediterranean transformed into a British lake, a definite settlement of Egyptian affairs must be made so soon as those of China and Japan shall be regulated."

This view of the situation is ominous of much future bickering, and, possibly, British journalists may regret their bravado: "Neither England nor Austria nor Italy will permit the transit of Suez to any fleet bound on a hostile errand to Japan." This bit of impudent swagger opened the eyes of Europe to a very probable future inconvenience, if not danger, and may put the Continent on its guard, the which coming events will prove. As a rule, the French Department of Foreign Affairs is administered, either unintelligently or under some foreign pressure; at present, by some lucky chance, its incumbent is a man of ability, energetic and ambitious to make his mark, who foresaw in French co-operation with the Russo-German programme the possibility of securing Russo-German assistance when England is officially and peremptorily summoned to fulfill her engagements and evacuate Egypt. If M. Hanoteux succeeds he will become the most popular man in France; will he succeed is quite another matter. John Bull is tenacious and only backs down when he cannot help himself; to resist a combination of the three great military Continental powers is more than even British pluck can pretend, but how so far the solidarity of Germany and Russia with France in a question mainly of interest to the latter only will go, is a point that is open to speculation. One thing, however, seems apparent, from recent debates in the French Senate and in the British House of



Commons, the Egyptian question is about to enter into an acute phase. *Per se*, this question is not directly of interest to Americans, but its settlement is so pregnant with international complications that it is permissible to offer a succinct sketch of the abnormal situation created by the stupid abdication of the French position under the *condominium*.

#### THE EGYPTIAN QUESTION.

According to Lord Cromer's report, as complaisantly submitted to the approval of the British Parliament, British influence is definitely implanted in the Valley of the Nile, where more and more as time goes on will be felt the beneficial effects of British generosity, disinterestedness, etc., and where the proverbial misery of the suffering *fellah* will soon become merely a dismal legend of the past. Where once was misrule and discord now harmony reigns supreme, British and native officials work together like a band of brothers and, in short, everything in Egypt is for the best—as regards British interests—and if Europe be not satisfied with the results obtained Europe is hard to please.

These statements are, unfortunately for Lord Cromer, not confirmed by those of many intelligent travelers not belonging to the British persuasion. Certainly, British influence predominates *materially* in Egypt; Egyptian hotels have become Anglo-Saxon *caravanserais*, every shopkeeper and every donkey-boy speaks English for the benefit of their principal customers and British soldiers patrol the streets after nightfall. In every Ministry—finance, interior, justice or public works—British counselors are intrusted with the mission of recalling to a sense of duty each and every native official who may manifest a velleity to independence. Apparently, then, Britannia holds all the trumps and the issue of the game would seem a foregone conclusion in her favor.

But, on the other hand, John Bull has against him the deep-rooted antipathy of the native population and the undisguised animosity of Egypt's legitimate ruler, the Khedive, who, since his accession to the vice-regal throne, has given repeated and incontrovertible proofs not only of his hatred of the "usurpers," but also of his intelligent comprehension of the duties of a sovereign. Abbas Pasha is not a *persona grata* with England, whose press has adopted a system of intimidation towards the young Viceroy coupled with insinuations and dark hints at impending troubles destined to create such suspicions of disorders to be feared as might warrant his removal from office and the absolute annexation of his dominion. Plots for the massacre of all European residents have been imagined, exceptional tribunals have been invented for the trial of crimes never committed, appalling rumors have been and still are circulated with a view to frighten Christendom, and the results of these manœuvres are: the redcoats are more than ever an abomination in the eyes of the inhabitants; the Khedive has gained the good will and sympathies of Europe.

This latter fact is comprehensible: Continental powers fear the action of England, who holds the key of the main artery of communication with the Pacific and will insist upon the only possible guarantee to its neutrality, which is Egypt to the Egyptians. On the other hand, there is no difficulty in explaining the hostility of the natives, which Lord Cromer, in a recent interview admitted, "notwithstanding all our efforts during twelve years of occupation." This admission, contrasted with the optimism of his Lordship's official report, is edifying and needs no commentary. British *morgue* and arrogance has indisposed the people among whom French influence predominates *morally*. In the Delta and generally throughout lower Egypt public education is exclusively in French hands, and there 1,500 children speak with fluency the French language; in the government's "normal schools" the vast majority of native students follow, from choice, the French lectures; in upper Egypt the zeal of the French Catholic missionaries more than counterbalances the efforts of their Protestant rivals, and with both categories of evangelizers a political objective is beyond all doubt. In the Judi-

ciary, British encroachments, all systematic as they are, cannot get beyond the limits imposed by the capitulations and by the reform of the tribunals; before all the different jurisdictions the French code alone is in force; all the most important pleadings are made in French, which is the official language of the Egyptian Diplomacy and Magistracy in all dealings with foreigners; the administration and *personnel* of the railways are exclusively French, no employee of British origin being admitted thereto; the *Caisse de la Dette*, an international organ, opens and closes at will the Stock Exchange, authorizing or refusing, according to its own appreciations of their urgency or utility, the appropriations demanded by the British resident. Morally, then, French influence is still predominant in the Land of the Pharaohs, where Britannia will ever be abhorred as an usurper. There are dark pages in the history of the British occupation, and who really "killed Cock Robin," *i. e.* started the Arabic movement, is not clear, as its nominal chief had neither brains nor energy sufficient to take the initiative in anything. As to the "glorious victory" of Tel-el-Kebir, it was one of the most grotesque farces ever represented on any military stage. One of our countrymen, Colonel Chaille-Long, who was on the spot, and who has done more in the interests of civilization and humanity than all the blue jackets and red coats, likewise "traveling buglers" in her Most Gracious Majesty's service, has published strange *facts* about that pseudo-revolution and its various corollaries. Unfortunately, the truth is often impalpable to those interested in its concealment, and this meritorious officer has been treated as was Cassandra.

#### THE SITUATION IN A NUTSHELL.

To sum up the situation: England is cordially detested by the Egyptians. Europe, impatient of delay, proposes to demand the loyal execution of engagements made nearly thirteen years ago, and if Europe be in earnest (?) John Bull must evacuate the premises or fight. John is obstinate and game to the backbone, but the odds against him will be very heavy and certain serious symptoms of unrest in his Indian Empire may persuade him that, in some cases, prudence is the better part of valor, notwithstanding the comminatory note in the *Times* explaining why the British naval forces in Egyptian waters have been doubled. On the Continent this new manifestation of Abion's might is judged to be only a colossal *bluff* and that the "Mistress of the Seas" is in something like the position of the commander of the "Mackerel Brigade" before Fredericksburg (*vide Orpheus C. Kerr's papers*) who, having "either to advance or to retreat, did both." Z.

#### A NEVER-MIND FELLOW.

I NEVER mind the weather—if its springtime many a tree  
Is shakin' down its blossoms in a shower over me;  
An' I know the girls air goin' where the honeysuckles grow,  
An' I see the rivers flowin' an' I'm glad I'm fur from snow.

I never mind the weather—if it's summer, well, I seem  
To pull myself together an' jest dream an' dream an' dream!  
For the roses roll around me in a perfect foam o' sea,  
An' the good Lord runs the weather, an' it's all alike to me!

I never mind the weather—if it's winter, well, I see  
A dozen happy faces round the fireside for me;  
An' I know the kettle's steamin', an' I know the fire's bright,  
An' I see blue eyes a-beamin', an' I'm all at home at night!

New York Mercury.

#### AMONG THE PREACHERS.

LITTLE things light on the lines of our lives—  
Hopes and joys and acts of to-day;  
Yet from end to end His meaning arrives,  
And His word runs underneath all the way.

A. D. T. WHITNEY.

\*\*\*

An exchange says that in Japan the Buddhist and Shinto priests find it necessary to use "Western methods" against the rapid increase of Christianity. They have established "Societies of Buddhist Endeavor," which advocate much of the philanthropy of the New Testament, and even employ "Buddhist Bible women."

General Booth, in one of his recent Salvation talks in Scotland, referring to the angels who had warned Lot and his family to leave the doomed city, said: "I do like angels. When I go to heaven and have got over the first surprise at all I shall see there, I'll go and have a cup of tea with them." What do you think of that for flippancy?

\*.\*

It was Spurgeon who wrote so characteristically: "I have often felt vexed with the man who chopped the New Testament up into verses. But I forgive him a great deal of blundering for his wisdom in letting these two words make a verse by themselves, 'Jesus wept.' Add a word to the verse, and it would be out of place. Let it stand in solitary sublimity and simplicity."

\*.\*

A gossip writer in the *Washington Post* says that down in the Black Belt of Georgia a Presbyterian minister received a visit from a colored pastor who wanted counsel and advice. "Well, sir, it's jest this way," said he; "I've done preached myself plumb out. I've worked on election, sanctification, predestination, hell inside and out, till I couldn't say another word to save my life." His white brother suggested that he should preach a sermon, by way of change, with "Thou shalt not steal" for a text. "Well, boss, dat certainly is a good text; but I'm mons'ous 'fraid it will produce a coolness in the congregation."

\*.\*

The *Outlook* gives the following account of a contention in St. Louis: "An association has been formed in St. Louis for the purpose of opposing the tendency to ritualism and sacerdotalism in the Protestant Episcopal Church. It is said by those familiar with the objects of the association that it will endeavor, by the dissemination of literature, to teach the members of the Church just what is lawful according to the rubrics and canons of the Church, and to show them to what the practices in certain churches and missions tend. The movement was not started until Bishop Tuttle had been notified concerning it. In a conversation he said he thought that it was unwise. A reporter asked him: 'Your position, then, Bishop, is that you object to ultra-ritualism on the ground that it is un-American, and not that you object to it personally as a mode of conducting services?' The reply was, 'Yes; I think that is about it.' 'And you will not interfere with any of the rituals that may be adopted?' 'No, I should think not.' 'Not even the confessional?' 'No.' One of the ministers of St. Louis most strongly opposed to the movement is the Rev. Robert A. Holland, D.D.; and one who is quoted as thinking that the growth of ritualism is a menace is the Rev. Charles Trotman, D.D. Such movements are perhaps more common in England than here, but sooner or later there must be a sharp line drawn between ritualists and sacerdotalists and the more evangelical teachers in the Episcopal Church."

#### ART AND SCIENCE.

HIS minutes while they're told  
Do make us old,  
And every sand of his fleet glass,  
Increasing age as it doth pass,  
Insensibly sows wrinkles there  
Where flowers and roses do appear.

\*.\*

One of the most sensible of recent inventions is that of an electrical mail box. Whenever a letter is put into the box a signal is sent to the occupant of the building. The box may be placed in the same electric circuit with a call-bell.

\*.\*

Professor Holden, of Lick Observatory, writes that before the art of photographing the moon can be carried to greater success there must be plates of greater sensitiveness and finer grain. Now the photograph of a volcanic crater on the moon's surface will appear like a grain of the silver on the plate unless the crater is over a tenth of a mile in diameter.

\*.\*

A new method of examining the larynx, or trachea, directly, without the intervention of a mirror or prism, has been devised by Dr. Kirstein, of Berlin. The patient is placed on his back, with his head hanging down, an esophagoscope is introduced, and then a tube 10 inches long is passed behind the epiglottis and lighted by an electroscope; the larynx can then be seen by the naked eye. The tube rests on the front upper teeth and keeps the tongue out of the way.

## OPEN DOORS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

### COST OF PRODUCING SILVER.

Governor McConnell, of Idaho, has sent to THE AMERICAN the following copy of a letter which he has written in reply to a number of important questions addressed to him by Mr. Lowery, of Iowa:

AUSTIN P. LOWERY,

Headquarters Iowa Non-Partisan Free Coinage Silver Club.

Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Sir: I have your favor of May 15th, and in reply to your query as to the average cost of the production of silver in the present silver dollar, so far as it relates to its cost of production from the mines of this State, I beg leave to say that an observation of thirty-five years, in a gold and silver-mining country has led me to believe that every dollar of silver produced from our mines has cost on an average in human toil and money expended more than the face value of the metal. I also believe the same may be said of gold. While a few mines have in all ages and in all countries proven profitable, yet in writing them up nothing has been said of the thousands of miners who go forth from time to time and suffer the hardships of climbing mountains, wading through snow, often hungry, sleeping in wet blankets, and enduring all the privations which attach to a mountaineer and frontiersman, returning bankrupt, broken in health and spirits. We only write the bright side of the picture.

Regarding your third query, "What effect on the production of the silver mines in your State, and the employment of laboring men there did the repeal of the Coinage act have?" I wish I could use an illustration which you and those to whom this letter may be shown would understand. Take for example, in your own country, two parallel competing lines of railway, if there be such; the carrying capacity of both being taxed to almost if not quite their full extent in removing the product of your country, and carrying passengers from place to place. Let one of these lines be crippled or practically destroyed and what would be the result to the community? I believe all will admit that the value of the continuing line would be largely increased, if not eventually doubled, and the people who are its patrons would be obliged to pay greater freights and fares. So it was when silver which, jointly with gold, had performed the functions of money of final redemption, from the beginning of our government and long before, was destroyed by being refused admission to our mints, gold being called to perform doubly the duty which it had formerly exercised, was consequently doubled in value and its power to purchase, either human labor or the products of human labor was equally enhanced, it naturally follows that it now requires twice the amount of labor, of wheat, of cotton, or, in fact, of anything which we use in our civilization to procure each dollar of the doubly precious metal than it did before silver was demonetized.

As you state, I am aware that there is a desperate effort being made by those who favor a gold standard alone to keep Iowa out of the silver column. They are distributing very seductive literature, and for a time it may prevent the masses from exercising the brains which God Almighty has given them, but when that time comes, when our fellow-countrymen will pause and ask themselves in the quiet of their own homes why it is that everything upon which they look, everything which is the product of industry or skill has so greatly decreased in value; they will begin to cast around for a cause, and once they have begun to do so they will trace it all back to the fountain head from whence these disasters sprung—"the act of 1873, demonetizing silver." But there is one conclusion which the people of this age will be unable to reach and that is, why did a civilized and enlightened nation like the United States destroy half her money of final redemption when they could not possibly receive any benefit thereby? Silver



at the time of its demonetization was worth more than the ratio of 16 to 1, and the product of it was not nearly so great as that of gold.

You will find by referring to the report of Mr. Leach, Director of the Mint, published in 1892, on page 219, in his summary of the production of precious metals in the United States in 1873, that being the year that silver was demonetized, we produced of that metal but \$27,483,302, while the output of our mines the same year in gold was \$39,206,558. A comparison of these productions will convince the most skeptical that it was not in consequence of the enormous output of silver that it was stricken from our money metals by being denied admission to our mints. The query therefore comes to us, "Why was such a law enacted?" Can it be possible that the members of Congress did not know what they were doing, or, on the other hand, knowing what they did were they influenced in their actions by those who hold the gold in the vaults of the Bank of England and other depositories of that precious metal, or did they not realize the full extent of the disaster which it would bring to the human family? I find it hard to conclude which of the three horns of the dilemma to accept.

That we are a debtor nation cannot be denied, nor will it be contradicted that the same business principles underlie the management of public as private affairs. If we as a nation owe large sums of money to the citizens of other nations, it is the duty of those in charge of our business management to provide for the payment of those debts.

If a farmer owes his neighbor, his merchant or his banker an obligation payable in the near future and has provided for the payment thereof by planting a field of corn, or sewing a field of wheat, the area of the cheaper crop being enough larger than that of the dearer to make the value of their respective crops equal, what would the neighbors of that farmer say if he should deliberately destroy the products of one of those fields, thereby reducing by one-half his ability to pay his debts?

My opinion is that they would take him before a board of lunacy and he would be committed to an asylum for the insane, yet our lawmakers practically did the same thing and they are yet at large!

With large debts payable in gold and silver, they deliberately destroyed the money qualities of the white metal and by so doing reduced by one-half our ability to pay our obligations.

The people of the State of Idaho, with her God-given treasure-caves of both gold and silver, contend for honest money, and in that contention demand that the money of final redemption in these United States be the same as the founders of this government and the framers of our Constitution declared it should be—gold and silver. And we further demand that its ratio be the same as before its demonetization—16 to 1.

We are heartily tired of the subterfuges of those who toady to the bankers and aristocracy of the Old World, believing as we do that the United States are capable of inaugurating and carrying out any financial policy we determine upon. We own our gold and silver mines, cotton and wheat and corn fields, vast deposits of iron ore and coal.

Our people are industrious and ingenious. Nature has endowed us with everything calculated to make a great nation. Then let us, like our Revolutionary forefathers, declare our Americanism, and dictate the policy of others instead of allowing them to dictate to us. Very respectfully yours,

W. J. McCONNELL,  
Governor.

Boise City, Idaho, May 21st.

#### FOREIGN FACTS AND FANCIES.

FOR fourteen years there has been an average of but twenty hours of sunshine in London in December.

Five-cent telegrams are to be tried in Italy. The government is also trying to have the tariff with other European countries reduced.

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It will cost a million drachmas to put the Parthenon, the Temple of Theseus, and the other monuments in Athens damaged by last year's earthquake in a safe condition. An appeal for help will be sent out to all countries.

\*\*\*

An old Gobelin of the seventeenth century, hitherto kept in the Hohenzollern Museum, has just been repaired and taken to the Royal Palace in Berlin. It represents the deed of the great Kurfurst, and measures about five yards high by four yards broad. The subject is the siege of Stettin, with batteries and groups of generals and soldiers.

\*\*\*

A little steamer of 100 tons is at present, according to press dispatches, being constructed at Argenteuil, according to the invention of M. Bazin, which consists in rolling the ship over the water instead of forcing it through as at present. To this end a number of enormous copper cylinders are fixed to the vessel, the speed attained depending upon the speed of the metal cylinders, and it is computed that thirty-one knots an hour can be easily made.

\*\*\*

The platform of Mr. Gurdon, the successful Liberal-Unionist candidate for Parliament in the recent by-election in Norfolk, in proposing to "make some provision for the working classes in their old age," smacks strongly of socialism. But this idea of pensioning the aged is rapidly gaining in favor among all classes and in all countries of Europe. France will probably be the first country to establish a universal and satisfactory system of such pensions.

\*\*\*

A novel method of rewarding the Japanese troops for their services in the war against China has been resolved upon by the Japanese Government. Instead of being presented with medals, each soldier who has served in the campaign is to be given a watch, and the Japanese war office has just entered into contracts with several Swiss firms for a large supply of these timepieces. The presentation of the watches will be made by the Mikado when he reviews his victorious troops at the close of the war.

\*\*\*

At the Schiller Theatre in Berlin a performance of the *Damen Krieg*, Scribe's *Bataille de Dames*, was given recently in honor of the 100th birthday of the translator, Frau Muehling. She was once an actress, and wife of a theatrical manager; she brought out Meyerbeer's "*Les Huguenots*" for the first time in German, and introduced Malibran and Henrietta Sonntag to Germany. The old lady had intended to be present at the performance, but over-exerted herself during the day, and was represented by fifty of her descendants, including her great-great-grandchildren.

#### SCIENTIFIC SCRAPS.

PROFESSOR GUNTZ of Nancy says that he has found a simpler method of obtaining argon than that of Lord Rayleigh and Professor Ramsey. He extracts it from lithium at a moderate temperature.

\*\*\*

Sir Benjamin Richardson, a noted English physician, thinks that the normal period of human life is about 110 years, and that seven out of ten average people ought to live that long if they took proper care of themselves.

\*\*\*

In experiments suggested by the fact that in a photographic dark room with ruby-glass windows a scarlet uniform will appear perfectly white, Herr H. W. Vogel finds that where white light is rigidly excluded the eye loses all sense of color and sees only in shades of black and white.

\*\*\*

The flying machine is still one of the prospective successes of the opening of the twentieth century. Professor Langley's aluminum engine has achieved a flight of about 1,000 feet, and although only an experimental model the recent experiments with it are considered more successful than those of Mr. Maxim in England.—*Inventive Age*.

The *Iron Age* has an article on the financial position of the great Illinois Canal, and one of the special features noted in the detailed report of the sections is the performance of two hydraulic dredges on section B. The two dredges excavated 1,538,387 cubic yards in 882½ working days, or an average of 1,731.8 cubic yards per day each. The total removed to January 1, 1895, is 12,608,806 yards of glacial drift and 5,358,068 yards of solid rock.

\*\*\*

Perhaps, says the *Sanitary Plumber*, the highest compliment that can be paid a mechanic is to say that he performs difficult work with ease; but it adds that, whatever the work, ease in doing it comes only as a result of long labor that the uninitiated know nothing about. All of which is true and scientific—the deepest practical truth and the highest practical science. The man who thinks habitually when he does not have to think and works habitually when he is not obliged to work is either a genius already or is making himself one as fast as it can be done.

\*\*\*

There are many curious forms among the fishes known to inhabit the very deepest portion of the deep sea, but there are few such unique specimens as that recently reported to the Berlin Institute from the coast of Morocco. It was brought up from a depth of one and one-half miles and was a wonder to behold. The creature was only about 29 inches long, but fully four-fifths of its entire length was head and mouth. It was estimated that if the body had been severed just behind the hinges of the jaw ten such "bodies" could have been stowed away in its pouch-like stomach.

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Dr. John S. Billings maintains that no poisonous or infectious bacteria are contained in exhaled air, even that of a consumptive. It is only when the subject coughs or sneezes that the exhalation bears the germs of disease. It is never in the air itself that such disease spreads, but in the dust from sputa. Aside from the matter of inhaling poisonous organic matter, breathing the pure air of the mountains secures no special immunity from disease over breathing the air of the slums. Professor Bowditch, of Harvard, agrees with the general line of results brought out by Dr. Billings.

## AS OTHERS SEE US.

### "LESS SENTIMENT AND MORE PROSPERITY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN.

Dear Sir: The sample copies of your excellent paper, THE AMERICAN, came to hand a few days ago, and I read them with so much pleasure that I send you my subscription. You are making a strong fight in behalf of the people against the oppressive gold standard, that has left the blight of its withering touch on all kinds and classes of business throughout our land of untold resources. The people of our section are awake to the fact that we must win the fight for free silver or continue and journey to poverty's door. A large majority of our people are ardent advocates of independent bimetallism, and in the next national election they will waive all party sentiment and heartily support the strongest free-silver man that is nominated by either of the old parties. They prefer less sentiment and more prosperity and are anti-Cleveland, "first, last and always," for we have had our dose of Eastern Democrats. Wishing you worlds of success in your noble work for the masses, I am, yours truly,

H. L. HERRING.

La Grange, Ga., June 7, 1895.

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### "MOST ABLE EXPONENT OF BIMETALLISM."

The Press and Dakotan, Yankton, S. D.

To the very many people who are interested on the silver side of the currency question, now under warm argument in the newspapers of the country, the *Press and Dakotan* commends THE AMERICAN, a weekly paper published at 119 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia. It is the most able exponent of bimetallism produced in this country, and is worth many times the \$2 charged for a year's subscription. The post-office address of THE AMERICAN is box 1202.

## Wanamaker's

### A Drive in Linens.

Stiller Linens, at that; the best wearing, heftiest Linens made in all Germany. It was mutual, good-fortune—our introducing these honest and sightly flaxen products to American shoppers, for it has made a worthy but modest weaver grow into a great manufacturer, and it has been one of the factors in making Wanamaker's the retail Linen Exchange of America. Nobody gets a pinch of profit on the Linens we sell except the maker and ourselves, and our every day selling brings you the goods at prices averaging about what most stores pay at wholesale. *But this is not every day selling*—it is a distribution of these famously good Linens at prices that will close out the great shipment this week.

#### Stiller Napkins.

600 dozen grass bleached heavy drill Napkins, 18 in. sq., 95c a dozen. Worth \$1.25.

585 dozen heavy grass bleached drill Napkins, 22 in. sq., \$1.50 a doz.; same quality 25 in. sq., \$1.75 a doz.

525 dozen fine grass bleached Damask Napkins in many pretty patterns, 18 in. sq., \$1.20 a doz.; worth \$1.50.

Same quality, 19 in., \$1.35 a doz.  
22 in., \$1.75 a doz.  
24 in., \$2.00 a doz.  
26 in., \$2.50 a doz.

100 dozen extra heavy bleached Double Damask Napkins, 25 in. sq., \$3 a doz. Value \$4.

#### Stiller Lunch Cloths.

Good quality, firm and well made colored border fringed Table Cloths in blue, red, gold or salmon:


66 x 86 inches, \$1.25 each.  
68 x 86 inches, \$1.50 each.  
68 x 104 inches, \$1.75 each.

Doylies to match, 85c a dozen.

JOHN WANAMAKER.

BECAUSE A man has sloping shoulders is no reason why his coat should not stay up at the neck. Our "56-59" book tells how we make clothes. Sent free if you ask on a postal.

E. O. THOMPSON,  
Finest Merchant Tailoring,  
908 Walnut St.



## Richard— Campion

### WORSTED YARNS

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## BARKER & COMPANY

### 429 Chestnut Street Philadelphia

Conduct a general financial business. Special facilities for the negotiation of corporation and other loans, both in American and European markets. European correspondents very influential. Stocks and bonds bought and sold on commission.

## THESE HARD TIMES:

WHEREFORE AND HOW LONG.

BY

REV. J. C. ELLIOTT.

ILLUSTRATED BY J. S. BENNER.

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IN 1884 the total production of aluminum was only 150 pounds. It is now 339,000 pounds a year. The price has decreased from \$9 to 75 cents per pound.

\*\*

Some of the Wall Street boys now call their acquaintances who dabbled in petroleum "Sardines," simply because several such have been done up in oil.

\*\*

It is said that the largest nugget of gold ever found was taken in 1872 from Hill End, in New South Wales. It weighed 640 pounds, and was worth \$148,000.

\*\*

The *Brewers' Journal* states that English syndicates have \$91,000,000 invested in American breweries, the dividend on which, at 9 per cent. last year, was \$8,190,000, and was paid in gold.

\*\*

A Nevada county man, writing from the lately discovered mines in Cariboo, B. C., gives the prices of miners' supplies, among them flour, \$8 to \$10 per hundred; pork, 25 cents per pound; eggs, \$1.25 a dozen; chickens, \$3 each.

\*\*

The citizens of Mannheim, a thrifty commercial city at the confluence of the Rhine and Neckar, have decided to build a large commercial port, at an expense of more than 7,000,000 marks. It is expected that it will considerably increase the local transit and export trade.

\*\*

Apropos of the claim that coal sometimes contains gold, it is a well-known fact that it has been found carrying considerable quantities of metallic silver. Some years ago, near Ruby, Col., several samples were found carrying quite large quantities of silver. Again, in Ouray County, Col., near the Dexter Mine, samples of coal were found imbedded in ore which carried metallic silver.

\*\*

Attention has lately been called to the necessity, in arrangements for the ventilation of mills, of a careful study of the meteorology of the district—the extreme range of temperature and of relative humidity being important factors both in dry and wet seasons. The maximum range on any day is important, also, to be known, and likewise the rate at which humidity in the air may vary in a working day, the fact being that there are scarcely two consecutive half hours in the day when the atmosphere is in the same condition; that is, it may be in a perfect state for spinning and weaving at one time, and four hours later may have only one-third of the necessary amount of moisture required for the purpose of manufacture. Again, the difference in the readings of two thermometers, wet and dry, is due to the rate of evaporation of water from muslin tied around one bulb; if the air is very dry, the evaporation is rapid and the cooling is in proportion, or, if the air is moist, evaporation is retarded, and when the air is saturated, as during a fog, evaporation stops, and, as there is no cooling effect on the wet bulb, both thermometers will read alike. It appears that some "humidifiers" that have done well in England have been failures in India. The mean difference of temperature of the air in India and England is, roughly, 30° F., so that, comparing the amount of water required to saturate air at 62 and at 92, at the higher temperature it takes just 2.65 times as much water for the purpose in India as in England.

## NUGGETS AND NUBBINS.

"BRING some oysters on the half shell.  
Hurry up and you'll be glad,  
For I'll give you half a dollar,  
And I want the oysters bad."

The waiter filled the order,  
But ne'er a cent he had,  
For the man was as mad as thunder  
When he found the oysters bad.

\*\*

Our evening dailies come out in five editions. The first mentions a rumor, the second confirms it, the third gives details, the fourth enlarges upon these, the fifth denies it.

She—Do you make love to every girl you know, as you do to me?

Young Lawyer—My dear young lady, you should not ask a question that would tend to incriminate the witness.

\*\*

He (the eligible one)—Your friend is charmingly pretty; don't you think so?

She (with an eye to the main chance)—Oh, yes, indeed. All the women of her family are nice-looking while young.

\*\*

Superintendent (to citizen sweeping the streets in the hot sunlight)—You'd better put on your hat, Mike. This blazing sunshine will affect your brain.

Mike—Sure, do you think I'd be sweeping the streets if I had any brains, sir?

\*\*

Fozzleton—Every time you measure me for a pair of trousers you measure me a little short.

Tailor—That isn't my fault.

Fozzleton—Why not?

Tailor—Because you always come in that way.

\*\*

*Harper's Bazar* relates that a teacher in a city school received the following note from the mother of a boy who had been absent for a day or two: "Dere Mam: plesse eggscuse Willy. He didn't hav but one pare of pants an I kep him home to wash and mend them, and Mrs. O'toole's goat come and et them up off the line and that awt to be eggscuse enuff, goodness nose. Yours with respect—MRS. B."

\*\*

The other day the boy found the Sandwich Islands on the map, and he startled his father by asking:

"Pa, why did they call 'em Sandwich Islands?"

Pa scratched his head and sparred for time by asking, "Don't you know that, after four years at school?"

"No, sir, I don't."

"Well, my son," said the sire, "it is because those islands are sandwiched in between the waters of the Pacific Ocean, see?" And the parent looked as wise as a tree full of owls, and the boy—he hopes to some day be a smart man like his father.

## Men's Shirts

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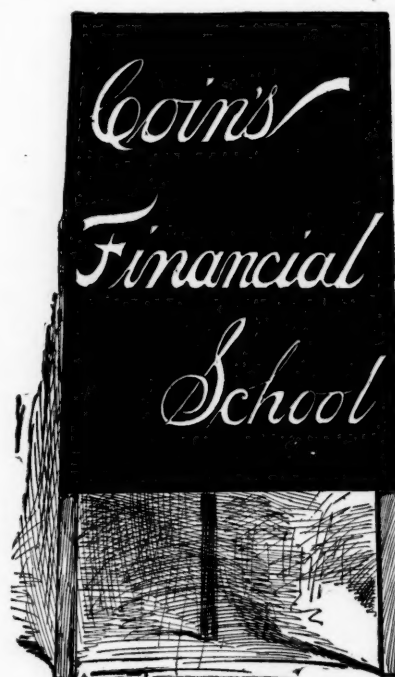
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